

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/627,761	WALSH, CHRISTOPHER S.
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kimberly D. Nguyen	2876
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. This communication is responsive to communication filed 7 June 2004.		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.		
3. The drawings filed on 28 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.		
4.		
 Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date	6. ☐ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dat 8), 7. ☐ Examiner's Amendn	e

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DETAILED ACTION

Amendment

1. Acknowledgement is made of Amendment filed 7 June 2004.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 2. Claims 1-9 are allowed.
- 3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The record of prior art fails to teach the step of generating a characteristic audio signal, previously assigned to the patient and stored by the system, in response to the entering of the patient identifier when there is a match between the entered patient identifier and a stored identifier for the patient stored by the system.

Gombrich et al. (US 4,857,716 and US 4,835,372) teaches a method and system for patient identification for relating items with patients and ensuring that an identified item corresponds to an identified patient. The identification system includes a computer system, a portable barcode reading device, an LCD display and a keypad, wherein the bar code reading device is utilized to read a patient's unique bar codes on a patient's identification bracelet, or bar codes on labels attached to various items in the hospital relating the item to a specific patient, whereby such items can be automatically correlated to a specific patient and ensure that the item properly corresponds to the identified patient. However, Gombrich et al fails to specifically teach the step of generating a characteristic audio signal, previously assigned to the patient and stored by the system, in response to the entering of the patient identifier when there is a match between the entered patient identifier and a stored identifier for the patient stored by the system.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2402. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kimberly Aguylan KDN

7 August 2004

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800